

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

JUSE-00 SY-05 FBIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00 /032 W

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O 112309Z MAR 75 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6646

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 2186

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, CFED, MX

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATORS

REF: MEXICO 2156; STATE 53296; STATE 54071

1. BECAUSE OF APPARENT URGENCY OF TRAVEL PROPOSED IN STATE 53296, EMBASSY DID NOT ELABORATE ON INFORMATION PROVIDED IN MEXICO 2156 BUT SUGGESTED IN FINAL PARAGRAPH THAT INVESTIGATORS MIGHT, WITH EMBASSY ASSISTANCE, THEMSELVES DISCUSS PROPOSED INVESTIGATIONS WITH APPROPRIATE GOM OFFICIALS. EMBASSY DID NOT INTEND TO SUGGEST, AND DOES NOT BELIEVE, THAT GOM WILL AUTHORIZE ANY SORT OF OPEN-ENDED INVESTIGATIONS SUCH AS DESCRIBED STATE 053296, PARA 1. WE DOUBT, INDEED, THAT GOM WILL AUTHORIZE ANY INVESTIGATIONS IN USUAL SENSE OF TERM. THE GOM (THROUGH FEDERAL ATTORNEY GENERAL) WOULD LIKELY GO NO FURTHER THAN TAKING COGNIZANCE OF FACT THAT U.S. OFFICIALS ARE IN MEXICO FOR PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING CERTAIN PERSONS, AND WOULD LIKELY POSE NO OBJECTIONS IF SUCH PERSONS AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED. NOR WOULD GOM OBJECT, WE BELIEVE, IF THESE PERSONS AGREED TO COME TO EMBASSY TO GIVE DEPOSITIONS. WE ARE CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT GOM WOULD NOT EXERT ANY SORT OF PRESSURE UPON MEXICAN NATIONALS TO ASSIST INVESTIGATORS. (WE SHOULD NOTE, IN THIS REGARD, THAT JORGE CASTILLO CITED STATE 53296 REPUTED TO BE PROMINENT MEXICAN LAWYER WHICH IMPLIES, ALMOST BY DEFINITION, INFLUENTIAL CONNECTIONS IN GOVERNMENT.)

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2. IF INVESTIGATORS WISH MERELY TO REQUEST CERTAIN PERSONS

VOLUNTARILY TO SUBMIT TO INTERVIEW, PREFERABLY IN EMBASSY,
WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL TO DISCUSS WITH GOM. IF
THEY WISH TO PURSUE "INVESTIGATIONS" BEYOND VOLUNTARY INTERVIEWS,
WE BELIEVE GOM MUST BE INFORMED. THE RISK, IN EITHER CASE,
IS THAT GOM WOULD OBJECT IN WHICH CASE EVEN VOLUNTARY INTER-
VIEWS COULD NOT BE CONDUCTED.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, PLEASE ADVISE
EMBASSY WHETHER TO TAKE UP MATTER WITH GOM. IF SO, PLEASE
PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES
INVESTIGATORS PROPOSE AND FOR WHICH GOM APPROVAL REQUESTED.
JOVA

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